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PATENT  
Customer Number 22,852  
Attorney Docket No.: 04208.0112

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Toshiyasu ITO et al. ) Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Application No.: 09/869,784 ) Examiner: Unknown  
Filed: July 5, 2001 )  
For: CARD CONNECTOR )  
)  
)  
)  
)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents, including any copending patent applications, are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

LAW OFFICES  
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Serial No.: 09/869,784  
Attorney Docket No.: 4208.0112  
Information Disclosure Statement

In lieu of statements of relevance or translation of non-English Documents, Applicants enclose copies of English-language international search reports from the Japanese Patent Office for corresponding PCT international applications.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

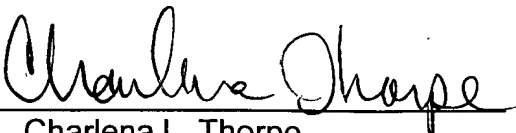
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: July 22, 2002

By:   
Charlena L. Thorpe  
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